

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1, 11, and 19 are amended to more clearly define the invention and claims 21-23 are canceled. Claims 1, 11, and 19 are independent.

These amendments are made only to more particularly point out the invention for the Examiner and not for narrowing the scope of the claims or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability.

Applicant also notes that, notwithstanding any claim amendments herein or later during prosecution, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements.

Claims 1-8 and 11-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Maruyama (JP 2000287274) in view of LaGrotta (U.S. Patent No. 6,477,361). Claims 9-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama and LaGrotta in view of Orimo (JP 4073031341).

These rejections are respectfully traversed in the following discussion.

I. THE CLAIMED INVENTION

An exemplary embodiment of the claimed invention as defined by, for example, independent claim 1, is directed to a portable radio telephone that includes a radio section for receiving an input radio signal and/or transmitting an output radio signal, a power supply controller for controlling a supply of electric power to the radio section responsive to reception of a power-off signal, the power-off signal being transmitted from a power-off signal transmitter provided in a prohibited area where use of a portable radio telephone is prohibited, and a power-off signal sensor for sensing reception of the power-off signal to

notify the power supply controller of reception of the power-off signal. When the power-off signal sensor senses reception of the power-off signal, the power supply controller stops the supply of electric power to the radio section while keeping additional built-in functions, other than a communication function, operable. When the power-off signal sensor does not sense reception of the power-off signal, the power supply controller continues the supply of electric power to the radio section. The additional built-in functions including at least one of a telephone directory function, and a scheduler function.

Conventional portable telephones may include a power supply that cuts-off the supply of power upon receipt of a power-off signal. However, these conventional portable telephones turn off the power to the entire telephone. While these conventional portable telephones obtain the desired effect of cutting-off power from a radio transceiver and/or a sound device, these conventional telephones do not allow a user to access and/or use other devices and/or functions that are included with the portable telephone.

Other conventional portable telephones may include a communication stop key which cuts-off the power supply to the radio transceiver in response to a user's operation of the stop key. These telephones are advantageous over the above-described conventional telephones in that they only cut-off power to those circuits that provide a communication function and, therefore, allow the user to access and/or use non-communication functions. However, these conventional portable telephones do not automatically cut-off power to the communication functions.

In stark contrast, the present invention provides a power supply controller that stops the supply of electric power to the radio section while keeping additional built-in functions, other than a communication function, operable. In this manner, the power is automatically

cut-off from the radio section while maintaining power to a device that does not have communications functions (page 4, lines 18-24).

II. THE PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

A. The Maruyama reference in view of the LaGrotta et al. reference

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-4, 7-8, 11-14, and 17-23, the Examiner alleges that the LaGrotta et al. reference would have been combined with the Maruyama reference to form the claimed invention. Applicant submits, however, that these references would not have been combined and even if combined, the combination would not teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention.

None of the applied references teaches or suggests the features of the claimed invention including: 1) a power supply controller that stops a supply of electric power to a radio section while keeping additional built-in functions, other than a communication function, operable, the additional built-in functions being at least one of a telephone directory function, and a scheduler function (claims 1 and 11); and 2) a power supply that cuts-off power to the radio section and maintains power to a device that performs functions other than a communications function in response to the power-off signal sensor sensing the power-off signal, the functions other than communications including at least one of a telephone directory function, and a scheduler function (claim 19). These features are important for automatically cutting power off from the radio section while maintaining power to a device that performs functions other than communication functions (page 4, lines 18-24).

The Maruyama reference clearly does not teach or suggest keeping any functions, other than a communication function, operable.

Indeed, the Examiner admits that the Maruyama reference does not teach or suggest anything at all regarding functions other than communication functions.

The LaGrotta et al. reference does not remedy the deficiencies of the Maruyama reference.

The LaGrotta et al. reference clearly does not teach or suggest keeping one of a telephone directory function and a scheduler function operable.

Rather, the LaGrotta et al. reference only teaches maintaining “timing circuits” that “track the time duration of the sleep mode” operable during a sleep mode. (Col. 4, lines 4 - 30).

The Examiner alleges that column 4, lines 4-30 of the LaGrotta et al. reference discloses “at least one of a clock function (time), and a scheduler (date) function.”

However, the claims do not recite “a clock function,” therefore, this allegation is irrelevant to the claims.

In regards, to the Examiner’s allegation that Column 4, lines 4-30 of the LaGrotta et al. reference discloses maintaining a scheduler (date) function operable, Applicants respectfully submit that this is incorrect.

Rather, and in particular, column 4, lines 4 - 30 of the LaGrotta et al. reference explains that “the power down time duration signal tells the pager how long it should remain in the sleep mode.” While in the sleep mode “the pager is aware of time, date, and elapsed time. In the sleep mode, the pager uses only minimum battery power, only that amount of power needed to operate the timing circuits. All other circuit operations are in the off state. Upon receipt of a power-down signal and a power-down time duration signal, the pager goes into the sleep mode, and the pager clock and timing circuitry begin to track the time duration

of the sleep mode.”

In other words, the LaGrotta et al. reference discloses a timing circuit which performs a countdown function. The timing circuit that is disclosed by the LaGrotta et al. reference does not schedule anything, and is, therefore, not capable of performing a scheduling function.

Clearly, column 4, lines 4-30 of the LaGrotta et al. reference do not teach or suggest a scheduler function or a telephone directory function.

Indeed, the LaGrotta et al. reference does not mention anything at all that is even remotely related to a telephone directory function and a scheduler function.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that None of the applied references teaches or suggests the features of the claimed invention including: 1) a power supply controller that stops a supply of electric power to a radio section while keeping additional built-in functions, other than a communication function, operable, the additional built-in functions being at least one of a telephone directory function, and a scheduler function (claims 1 and 11); and 2) a power supply that cuts-off power to the radio section and maintains power to a device that performs functions other than a communications function in response to the power-off signal sensor sensing the power-off signal, the functions other than communications including at least one of a telephone directory function, and a scheduler function (claim 19).

Further, Applicant submits that these references would not have been combined as alleged by the Examiner. Indeed, the references are directed to completely different matters and problems.

Specifically, the Maruyama reference is concerned with instability by turbulence within a radio-wave-propagation environment that may cause problems in ensuring that a

device maintains a standby-mode within a disable area ([0004] - [0006]).

In stark contrast, the LaGrotta et al. reference is concerned with the completely different and unrelated problem of missed calls to a wireless terminal (col. 1, lines 50 - 64).

One of ordinary skill in the art who was concerned with instability by turbulence within a radio-wave-propagation environment that may cause problems in ensuring that a device maintains a standby-mode within a disable area, as the Maruyama reference is concerned, would not have referred to the LaGrotta et al. reference, and vice-versa, because the LaGrotta et al. reference is concerned with the completely different and unrelated problem of missed calls to a wireless terminal. Thus, the references would not have been combined.

Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claims 1-4, 7-8, 11-14, and 17-23.

B. The Maruyama reference in view of the LaGrotta et al. reference and in further view of the Orimo et al. reference

Regarding the rejection of claims 9 and 10, the Examiner alleges that the LaGrotta et al. reference would have been combined with the Maruyama reference and that the Orimo et al. reference would have been combined with the Maruyama reference and the LaGrotta et al. reference to form the claimed invention. Applicant submits, however, that these references would not have been combined and even if combined, the combination would not teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention.

None of the applied references teaches or suggests the features of the claimed invention including: 1) a power supply controller that stops a supply of electric power to a radio section while keeping additional built-in functions, other than a communication

function, operable, the additional built-in functions being at least one of a telephone directory function, and a scheduler function (claims 1 and 11); and 2) a power supply that cuts-off power to the radio section and maintains power to a device that performs functions other than a communications function in response to the power-off signal sensor sensing the power-off signal, the functions other than communications including at least one of a telephone directory function, and a scheduler function (claim 19). These features are important for automatically cutting power off from the radio section while maintaining power to a device that performs functions other than communication functions (page 4, lines 18-24).

As explained above, neither of the Maruyama reference nor the LaGrotta et al. reference teaches or suggests these features.

The Orimo et al. reference does not remedy the deficiencies of the Maruyama reference and the LaGrotta et al. reference.

Indeed, the Examiner does not allege that the Orimo et al. reference remedies these deficiencies.

Rather, the Orimo et al. reference merely discloses providing a portable telephone having a selection of modes, such as, a meeting mode, a theater mode, and a darkness mode. Each mode has a different set of functions turned on or off.

None of the modes that are disclosed by the Orimo et al. reference cuts power off from a radio section, let alone cuts power off from a radio section while maintaining power delivery to a non-communication function device.

Further, Applicant submits that these references would not have been combined as alleged by the Examiner. Indeed, the references are directed to completely different matters and problems.

In stark contrast to the Maruyama reference and the LaGrotta et al. reference, the Orimo et al. reference is specifically directed to addressing the problem of a complicated arranging of a portable telephone during, for example, a meeting and the problem of “un-arranging” the telephone back to a normal situation. [0004].

One of ordinary skill in the art who was concerned with instability by turbulence within a radio-wave-propagation environment that may cause problems in ensuring that a device maintains a standby-mode within a disable area, as the Maruyama reference is concerned, or who was concerned with the problem of missed calls to a wireless terminal as the LaGrotta et al. reference is concerned with addressing, would not have referred to the Orimo et al. reference, and vice-versa, because the Orimo et al. reference is concerned with the completely different and unrelated problem of a complicated arranging of a portable telephone during, for example, a meeting and the problem of “un-arranging” the telephone back to a normal situation. Thus, the references would not have been combined.

Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claims 9-10.

III. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-20, all the claims presently pending in the Application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the Application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed

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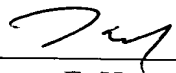
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below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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